

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 DPW-01 IO-14 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 OMB-01 DRC-01

SCSE-00 /094 W

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9376

INFO USLO PEKING IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS HONG KONG 0985

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CH, VN, US

SUBJECT: NCNA ANNOUNCEMENT ON PARACEL PRISONERS

1. REUTERS TODAY CARRIES REPORT OF NCNA ANNOUNCEMENT OF PENDING RELEASE OF SOUTH VIETNAMESE PRISONERS AND ONE AMERICAN CAPTURED IN THE PARACELS. NCNA SAID THE VIETNAMESE PRISONERS INCLUDED MAJOR PHAN VAN HONG AND 47 OTHER OFFICERS AND TROOPS. IT SAID THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO REPATRIATE THE ABOVE-MENTIONED CAPTURED PERSONNEL IN BATCHES. THE FIRST BATCH WILL CONSIST OF FIVE SICK AND WOUNDED PERSONNEL OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE ARMY AND THE AMERICAN, WHO IS ILL. THEY WILL BE REPATRIATED JANUARY 31 AT SHUMCHUN. ACCORDING TO THE NCNA STATEMENT THE CHINESE RED CROSS WILL NOTIFY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS AND THE AMERICAN NATIONAL RED CROSS TO RECEIVE THE RELEASED PERSONNEL.

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